

SUGAR.

New York, May 6.—Sugar—Raw, firm; fair refining, 3c.; centrifugal, 95 test, 3 1/2 c.; Molasses Sugar 2 1/2 c.; refined, firm.

THE Enterprise has magnificently lived up to all the promises made by Captain Matson.

THE new Exclusion bill is more drastic than its friends hoped in the beginning. It is virtually perpetual and is as vigorous in Island territory as at home.

LET Hilo invite Col. Thomas Fitch of Honolulu to make the oration on July 4. He is one man on the Islands whose eloquence is like an outburst of Kilauea's crater.

LAST week Hilo was hoodooed. We had a band concert without the band; a balloon ascension without the ascension; and Sunday evening church services without a congregation. Rain had a good bit to do with it.

THE sparring match at Spreckels hall tomorrow night will round out a period of unusual excitement in Hilo. A balloon has been in the city for a fortnight and a kitescope on Front street has been dispensing sensations for more than a week past.

Hilo's champion boxer, L. D. Brown, has some of the characteristics of Cincinnatus of old. He leaves the pursuit of agriculture to enter the lists of battle. If defeated he can return to the shades of his banana groves. If victorious he can go to Honolulu, from whence he will return in a triumphal chariot.

THE Hawaiian Republicans of Hilo do not attach much significance to the movement started by the Home Rulers at the convention at the Puuoa church last week. They say that there are some names among the nominees which have been in pickle for the regular Republican convention and that the mere fact that they have been picked by the Home Rulers is no reason for the Republicans to throw them down.

THE officials of the leading labor organizations are trying to induce Congress to see a great saving of the money of the people, by having government war vessels built in government navy yards. The source of the agitation would indicate that the owners of private shipyards have been making enormous profits which they refuse to divide equitably with the man who wields the hammer. If there is money to be saved to the government and a better wage paid to laborers in the building of ships without impairing the fighting qualities of the ships, then the government should build its own navy.

THE FOURTH OF JULY.

That the Fourth of July is near at hand is proved by the petition that has been passed around calling for a mass meeting tonight at the Firemans hall to make plans for a celebration. The petition bears the signatures of practically every business and professional man in town and with the start already made the outlook is good for the biggest celebration of Independence Day that has ever been seen on this island. There is talk of having a big parade, with floats and marching bodies of men including a regiment of calithumpians, composed of all nationalities.

The meeting tonight should be well attended. The time is short for preparations and those who are on the committees should lay themselves out and leave nothing undone that will make the day in Hilo attractive to all classes.

We must have the best orators and the reddest kind of fire.

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SOCIABLE—OF COURSE.

The Agricultural Fair to be held in Honolulu the third week in July, should be participated in by the farmers of this Island. No doubt they would come home laden with blue ribbons and diplomas, thus further establishing the supremacy of the Big Island. The Merchant's Week at Honolulu during Fourth of July week, will not attract so many visitors from this Island as it would, had it been held at a more propitious time. Hilo will have Berger's Band and a glorious celebration on hand. But this need not prevent Hilo and Hawaiian Merchants from having representatives at the Merchant's Fiesta. If Honolulu has benefits in the way of prices and goods for the merchants of this city it is to Hilo's interest to take advantage of them. However it is plain enough that to the independent merchant Honolulu cannot compete in prices with Mainland houses, since the Enterprise came with quick connection.

Hawaii will never cease to be sociable with Oahu and take all the Diplomas she may hang up. But our Commercial Independence cannot be cajoled by "Fiestas."

OREGON AND EXPANSION.

The Oregon state election which occurs in June, it is said, is likely to go Democratic. Such a result would attract the attention of the whole country and give rise in administration circles to apprehensions of a change of sentiment on the Pacific Coast on the question of expansion. In McKinley's first campaign, Oregon went Republican by 2100; in his second run McKinley lead by 12000. To drop from this splendid endorsement of McKinley to a Democratic victory would amaze the country.

However, any one acquainted with the temper of the population of the Northwest, regardless of party, knows that upon the new issues of national expansion, they are for taking no backward step. Bryan talked himself hoarse in the Columbia river valley two years ago and made 10,000 votes for McKinley in Oregon. If expansion were the issue or if President Roosevelt's administration were the issue, there could be no misgivings for Oregon.

But in State politics there are more factions and personal quarrels in Oregon than there are in a South American republic. In off years, these factions get in their work. This year, the Republican nominee for Governor, W. J. Furnish, is a man who left the Democratic party in 1896, on account of the money question. The Democrats in Geo. E. Chamberlain, are fortunate in having a candidate who is for sound money and always has been. Many of the old time Republicans promise to knife Furnish saying if they must vote for a Democrat, they prefer a genuine one.

Therefore, if the apprehensions of Republicans in Oregon who smell defeat, are realized, the result cannot be charged to a change of front on expansion.

CUBAN RELIEF MAY FAIL.

A Deadlock Between House and Senate in Sight.

Washington, April 30.—Senators who stand for the Administration program of tariff reduction in favor of Cuba declare that a change has come over the opposition in the Senate during the past few days, and that the original plan of relief will be carried out, with about 25 per cent reduction, free on the differential amendment that wrought havoc in the House.

But the temper of the House continues unbending. The California Congressmen say, with emphasis, that they cannot go back on the record made on the Cuban business. They will stick out for the removal of the differential on refined sugar and will vote with the Democrats against the removal of the Morris amendment. The best informed and most impartial observers of the current of events here believe Cuban relief under the reciprocity scheme is impossible at this session, and predict a move on the part of the Administration's friends in the Senate attempting to obtain relief for Cuba in some new form.

PORTUGAL THREATENED.

Apprehension as to Attitude of the Troops in Official Quarters.

London, May 5.—A dispatch to a news agency from Madrid says that advices received here from Portugal indicate that there is danger of an active revolution in that country. Considerable apprehension is felt in official quarters as to the attitude of the Portuguese troops. The Sixth Infantry, stationed at Oporto, has been disarmed and disbanded for fear the soldiers would join the rioters. The military and naval officers are advocating that King Charles establish a dictatorship.

Subsidy Bill May Fail.

Washington, May 3.—The House Merchant Marine Committee are continuing the consideration of the ship subsidy bill. They had several hearings upon it and there are more to follow. Andrew Feruseth of the National Seamen's Union of America, and Charles Campbell of the Marine Industrial League of New York, were before the last meeting. Mr. Feruseth opposed the bill, Mr. Campbell favored it in the main. Requests for future hearings against the bill have been filed by the Joint Committee of the American Anti-Trust League and local Knights of Labor. Postoffice officials have accepted an invitation to appear. Other interests both for and against the bill are expected to be heard.

The trend of Congressional sentiment is now in opposition. Recent developments in the shipping world have done much more to arouse the opponents of the bill than to encourage its friends. The Democrats are united against it. Republican opposition is widespread.

Captive For Six Years.

New York, May 5.—A cable to the Sun from Rome says: A trooper writes from Abyssinia that he and twenty other Italians are still prisoners of Negus Menelek. It was supposed that these men were killed at the battle of Adowa in 1896.

Chile to Lay a New Cable.

Santiago (Chile), May 5.—The Chilean Government is asking for tenders for the work of laying an ocean cable to the Straits of Magellan, starting from Talcahuano, Chile.

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